

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) Process for the preparation of micro- and/or nanoparticles of a substance, characterized in thatwherein molecularly distributed substances are associated into particles and simultaneously stabilized in suspension, the substance being dissolved in solvent system for it and a non- solvent for this substance subsequently being added which is miscible with the solvent for this substance, one or more crystal growth inhibitor(s) being added and a rapid combining of solvent system and non-solvent being carried out, as a result of which the substance is precipitated with formation of a dispersion of particles which have a size in the micro or nanometer range.

2. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in thatwherein the solvent system comprises one or more solvents for the substance.

3 (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in thatwherein the solvent system includes one or more solvents selected from aliphatic or aromatic alcohols, ketones, nitriles, in particular ethanol, methanol, isopropanol, acetone and/or acetonitrile.

4. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in thatwherein the substance in the non-solvent for this substance has a solubility less than 1g/100 ml, in particular less than 0.1 g/100 ml.

5. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in thatwherein the non-solvent includes one or more non-solvents selected from water, or an organic solvent with a hydrophilic character such as methanol.

6. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the substance is a water-soluble substance and the non-solvent or the mixture of several non-solvents is an organic solvent which is a non solvent for the substance.

7. (currently amended) Process according to claim 6, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the non-solvent system of one or more ~~non-solvents~~ ~~non-solvents~~ is selected from aliphatic or aromatic alcohols, ketones, nitriles, aldehydes or amides, ~~in particular from~~ linear or branched C₁-C₁₀ alcohols, ~~preferably isopropanol, methanol or ethanol, or~~ C₃-C₁₀ ketones, ~~preferably acetone, acetaldehyde, acetonitrile or dimethyl formamide,~~

8. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the crystal growth inhibitor(s) is/are selected from polyvinyl alcohols, cellulose ethers, cellulose esters, caseinates, casein, sodium alginate, polyvinyl alcohol-polyethylene glycol graft copolymers, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, povidone, PVP, hydroxyethyl starch, HES, polyacrylates/polymethacrylates, chitosan, agar, pectin, sugar, dextrans, gelatine A, gelatine B, gum arabic, poloxamers, ethoxylated triglycerides, sugar esters, sugar ethers, alkali soaps, (fatty acid salts), ionic and zwitterionic surfactants, polysorbates, polyoxyethylene fatty alcohol ethers, polyoxyethylene fatty acid esters and phospholids or any mixtures of same, ~~in particular those selected from the group of hydrophilic polymers.~~

9. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the crystal growth inhibitor(s) is/are a cellulose ether selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, methyl cellulose and methylhydroxy ethylcellulose.

10. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the crystal growth inhibitor is hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.

11. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the concentration of crystal growth inhibitors relative to the substance to be precipitated is in the range from 0.01 to 50 wt.-%, preferably 0.1 to 30 wt.-% and preferably 0.5 to 20 wt.-%.

12. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the particles are present in crystalline form or amorphous form.

13. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the particles are present in crystalline or amorphous form and have a size of 100 µm to 10 nm, preferably 50 µm to 20 nm, in particular 30 µm to 30 nm and particularly preferably 15 µm to 100 nm.

14. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~that~~ ~~wherein~~ the substance is an active ingredient.

15. (currently amended) Process according to claim 14, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the substance is a pharmaceutical active ingredient.

16. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the dispersion is spray-dried or freeze-dried or dried by solvent evaporation or in that the powder is obtained by filtration techniques or in that a combination of a variety of these processes is used.

17. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the substance micronized according to this process is a substance or drug which has a low cohesivity, a low adhesivity and just an extremely low electrostatic charge.

18.-23. (Canceled).

24. (new) Process according to claim 5, wherein the non-solvent is methanol.

25. (new) Process according to claim 7, wherein the C₁-C₁₀ alcohol is isopropanol, methanol or ethane.

26. (new) Process according to claim 7, wherein the C₃-C₁₀ ketone is acetone, acetaldehyde, acetonitrile or dimethyl formamide.
27. (new) Process according to claim 1, wherein the crystal growth inhibitor is a hydrophilic polymer.
28. (new) Process according to claim 11 wherein the concentration is in a range from 0.1 to 30 wt.-%.
29. (new) Process according to claim 11 wherein the concentration is in a range from 0.5 to 20 wt.-%.
30. (new) Process according to claim 13 wherein the particle size is 50 µm to 20 nm.
31. (new) Process according to claim 13 wherein the particle size is 30 µm to 30 nm.
32. (new) Process according to claim 13 wherein the particle size is 15 µm to 100 nm.
33. (new) Process according to claim 1, wherein the micro- and/or nanoparticles are present in a colloid dispersion.